

By: Taylor of Galveston

S.J.R. No. 54

1 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION

2 proposing a constitutional amendment authorizing a municipal
3 charter amendment election to be held on certain election dates.

4 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

5 SECTION 1. Section 5(a), Article XI, Texas Constitution, is
6 amended to read as follows:

7 (a) Cities having more than five thousand (5000)
8 inhabitants may, by a majority vote of the qualified voters of said
9 city, at an election held for that purpose, adopt or amend their
10 charters. An election to amend a charter may be held on an election
11 date prescribed by the Legislature. If the number of inhabitants of
12 cities that have adopted or amended their charters under this
13 section is reduced to five thousand (5000) or fewer, the cities
14 still may amend their charters by a majority vote of the qualified
15 voters of said city at an election held for that purpose. The
16 adoption or amendment of charters is subject to such limitations as
17 may be prescribed by the Legislature, and no charter or any
18 ordinance passed under said charter shall contain any provision
19 inconsistent with the Constitution of the State, or of the general
20 laws enacted by the Legislature of this State. Said cities may
21 levy, assess and collect such taxes as may be authorized by law or
22 by their charters; but no tax for any purpose shall ever be lawful
23 for any one year, which shall exceed two and one-half per cent. of
24 the taxable property of such city, and no debt shall ever be created

1 by any city, unless at the same time provision be made to assess and
2 collect annually a sufficient sum to pay the interest thereon and
3 creating a sinking fund of at least two per cent. thereon, except as
4 provided by Subsection (b). Furthermore, no city charter shall be
5 altered, amended or repealed oftener than every two years, except
6 that a subsequent charter election may be held on a date prescribed
7 by the Legislature even if that date falls a number of days short of
8 two years.

9 SECTION 2. This proposed constitutional amendment shall be
10 submitted to the voters at an election to be held November 7, 2017.
11 The ballot shall be printed to provide for voting for or against the
12 proposition: "The constitutional amendment authorizing a
13 municipal charter amendment election to be held on an election date
14 prescribed by the legislature."